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# U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FARMERS' BULLETIN No. 1506

## STANDARD BREEDS & VARIETIES OF CHICKENS

I. AMERICAN, ASIATIC, ENGLISH,  
AND MEDITERRANEAN CLASSES



**T**HE BREEDS AND VARIETIES of chickens discussed in this bulletin are of particular value for the production of eggs or poultry meat, or both. The operator of the commercial poultry plant should realize that consumers frequently show a preference for eggs and poultry of a certain color. For instance, New York City, which is the largest egg-consuming center on the American Continent, usually shows a preference for white-shelled eggs; Boston, on the other hand, shows a preference for brown-shelled eggs. All American markets show a preference for poultry with yellow skin. In birds with white plumage or those in which the under-color is light, the pinfeathers do not show when the birds are prepared for market, and birds without feathers on their shanks are always preferred by poultry dealers and consumers.

There are many recognized breeds and varieties of chickens. Those discussed in this publication belong to the American, Asiatic, English, and Mediterranean classes. The breeds and varieties belonging to the Continental European, Oriental, Game, Ornamental, and Miscellaneous classes are discussed in another bulletin of the department.

This bulletin discusses the qualities of the various breeds and varieties listed; but, because of the large numbers involved, only brief descriptions are possible. Persons desiring more detailed information are referred to the American Standard of Perfection, a book published by the American Poultry Association. The office of the secretary is at Fort Wayne, Ind. There are other good books on the market which give detailed descriptions as well as matters of general interest to poultry raisers.

This bulletin supersedes Farmers' Bulletins 898, 1052, and 1347.

# STANDARD BREEDS AND VARIETIES OF CHICKENS

## I. AMERICAN, ASIATIC, ENGLISH, AND MEDITER- RANEAN CLASSES

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### INTRODUCTION

THE POULTRY INDUSTRY of the United States is mainly concerned with keeping chickens for the production of food. This may take the form of producing either eggs or meat or both. The breeds and varieties of chickens described in this bulletin constitute the great majority of chickens used for that purpose.

Each breed may comprise one or more varieties, but one character in common is the shape or type of all birds belonging to that breed. All birds belonging to any one variety have a similar color pattern.

### AMERICAN CLASS

The American class includes the following breeds and varieties:

BREED	VARIETY
Plymouth Rock.....	Barred, White, Buff, Silver Penciled, Partridge, Columbian, Blue.
Wyandotte .....	White, Buff, Silver Laced, Golden Laced, Partridge, Silver Penciled, Columbian, Black.
Rhode Island Red.....	Single Comb, Rose Comb.
Rhode Island White...	Rose Comb.
Jersey Black Giant	
Java.....	Black, Mottled.
Dominique.	
Buckeye.	
Chantecler.	

All birds belonging to the American class are clean legged; that is, they have shanks free from feathers. They also have yellow beaks, shanks, and skin, except the Rhode Island Red, Java, and Jersey Black Giant. All except the Black Java have red ear lobes. All lay brown-shelled eggs and are classed as "broody."

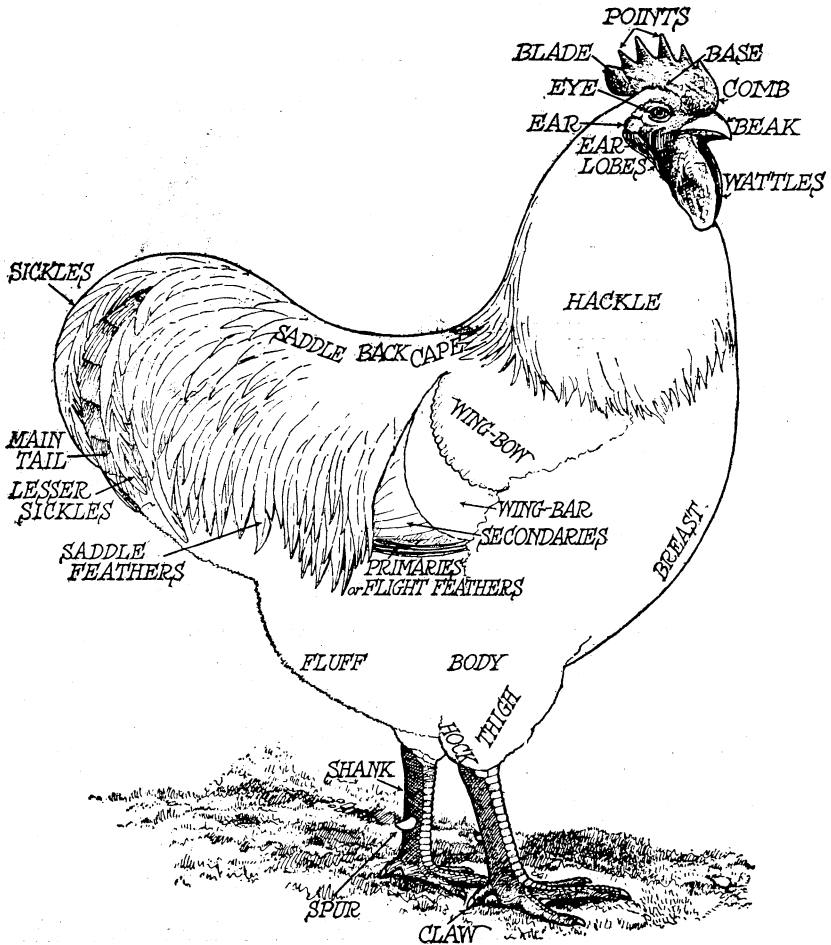


FIG. 1.—Glossary chart giving the names of the various sections of a male fowl

#### PLYMOUTH ROCK

The Plymouth Rock is one of the most popular breeds in America, largely because it is a bird of good size, with excellent fleshing properties, and when properly bred is also a good layer. The birds belonging to this breed are rather long bodied, fairly broad, with fairly prominent breast, and good depth of body. This breed has a single comb. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock,  $9\frac{1}{2}$ ; hen,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel, 8; pullet, 6.

The **Barred Plymouth Rock** in plumage color is grayish white, each feather crossed by almost black bars which should be even in width, straight, and should extend down to the skin. Each feather should end with a narrow, dark tip, which with the alternate dark and light bars gives a bluish cast or shade to the surface color. The barring in the hackle and saddle of the male is narrower than in other sections. Solid black or partly black feathers may occur in practically

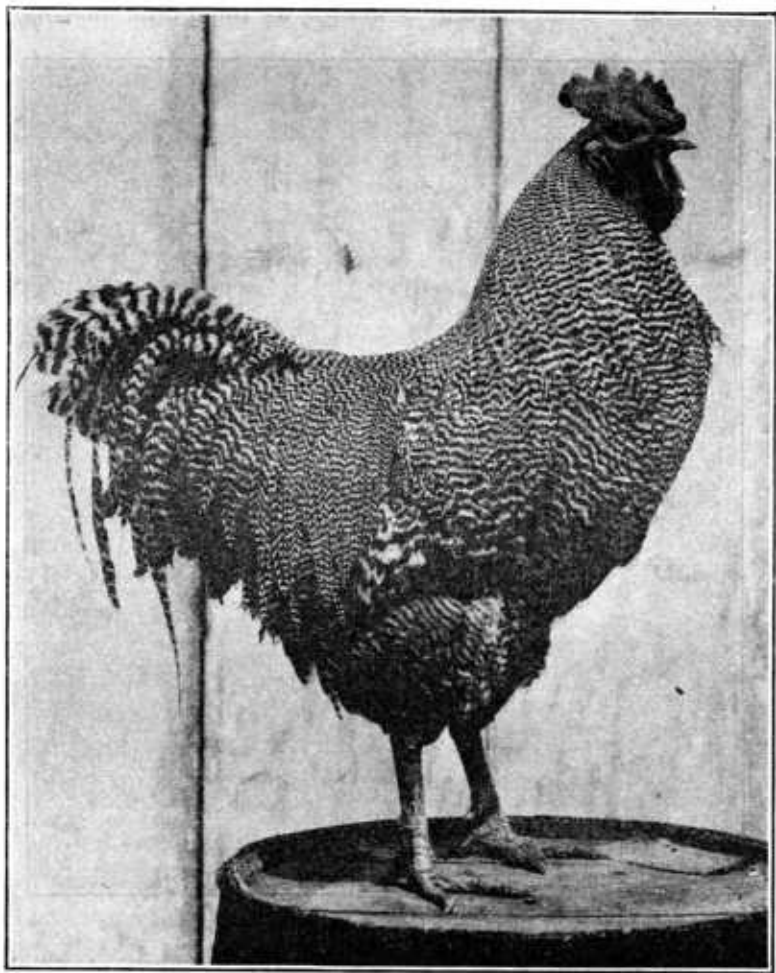


FIG. 2.—Cockerel-bred Barred Plymouth Rock, male

all strains in this variety, but their appearance does not necessarily indicate impurity of breeding. Black spots on the shanks are also common, particularly in females, but they do not indicate impurity of breeding.

In the breeding of Barred Plymouth Rocks there is a decided tendency for the males to come lighter in color than the females, and for this reason many breeders resort to two separate matings,

one for the production of males of standard color and the other for the production of females of standard color. This system of breeding is known as double mating. To produce males of standard color, a standard-colored sire is mated to medium-dark dams, or dams two or three shades darker than females of standard color. This mating is known as the cockerel mating. To produce females of standard color, dams of standard color are mated to a medium-light sire or one that is two or three shades lighter than males of standard color. This mating is known as the pullet mating.

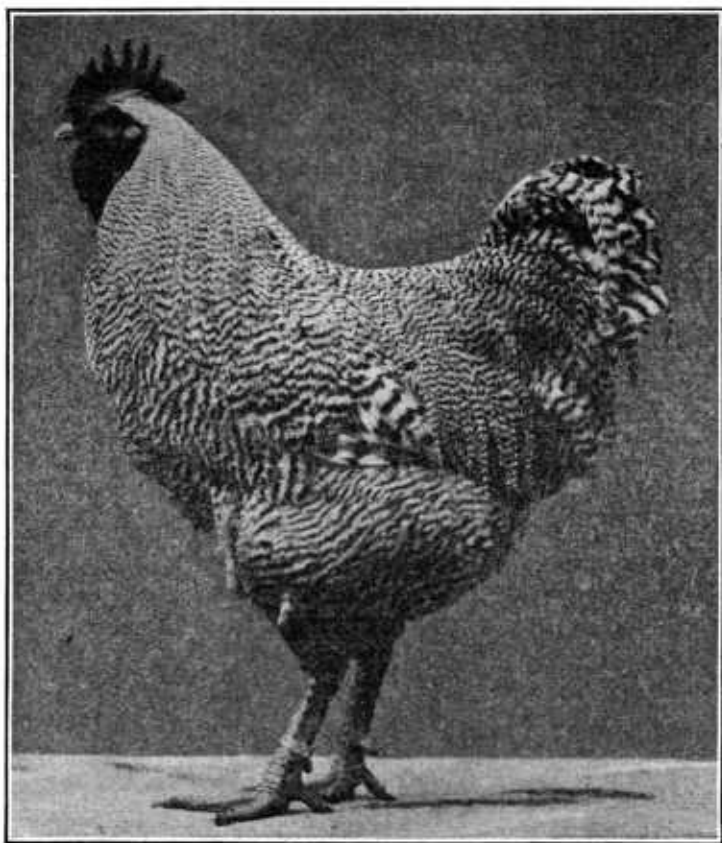


FIG. 3.—Pullet-bred Barred Plymouth Rock, male

The **White Plymouth Rock** is pure white throughout and should be free from black ticking, brassiness, and creaminess. See title page for illustration of a white Plymouth Rock male.

The **Buff Plymouth Rock** is golden buff in all parts of the surface color, and all sections should be of the same shade. The presence of feathers having a shaft of different color from the rest of the feather and the presence of feathers sprinkled with lighter color are of common occurrence but are undesirable. The undercolor is of a little lighter shade than the surface color.

The **Silver Penciled Plymouth Rock** has a distinctive color pattern in which the male differs considerably from the female. The plumage of the male consists of a silvery white surface color, extending over the wing bows and back, and the hackle and saddle are silvery white, striped with black. The rest of the plumage, including the main tail feathers and sickles, is black. The primaries are black, except for a narrow edging of white on the lower edges of the lower webs, and the secondaries are also black, with some white. In the female the general surface color is gray, with a distinct, concentric

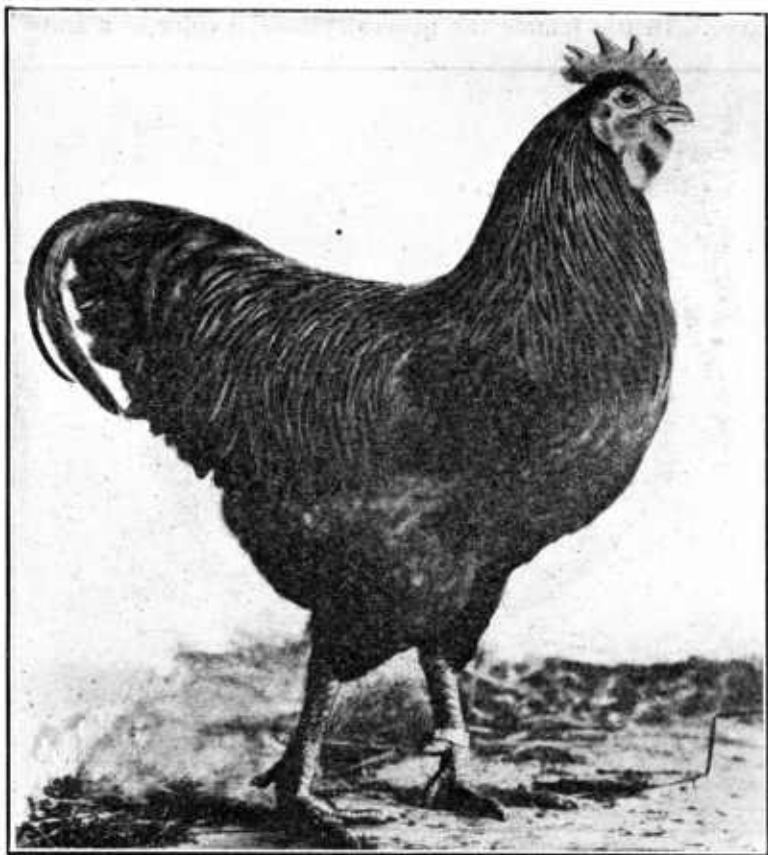


FIG. 4.—Partridge Plymouth Rock, male

penciling of dark gray on each feather. The neck feathers are silvery white, with a black center showing a slight gray penciling, and the main tail feathers are black, with the two top feathers showing some penciling. In both sexes the undercolor is slate, shading to a lighter color toward the base in the male.

The **Partridge Plymouth Rock** in color pattern is practically the same as the **Silver Penciled Plymouth Rock**, except that the white in the **Silver Penciled** is replaced by red or reddish brown.

**The Columbian Plymouth Rock.**—Most of the plumage is white, although the hackle feathers of the male and the neck feathers of



the female, the main tail feathers, and the tail coverts of both sexes are black, with a distinct white lacing. The wings also carry some black on the primary and secondary feathers, which is almost hidden when the wings are folded. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes should be light-bluish slate.

**The Blue Plymouth Rock.**—In the male the plumage color over practically all parts is a medium shade of slaty blue, each feather laced with darker blue and in the wing bows, hackle, back, saddle, sickle feathers, and tail coverts the lacing is very dark. This gives the surface color of the upper sections of the male a very dark appearance. In the female the general plumage color is a slaty blue

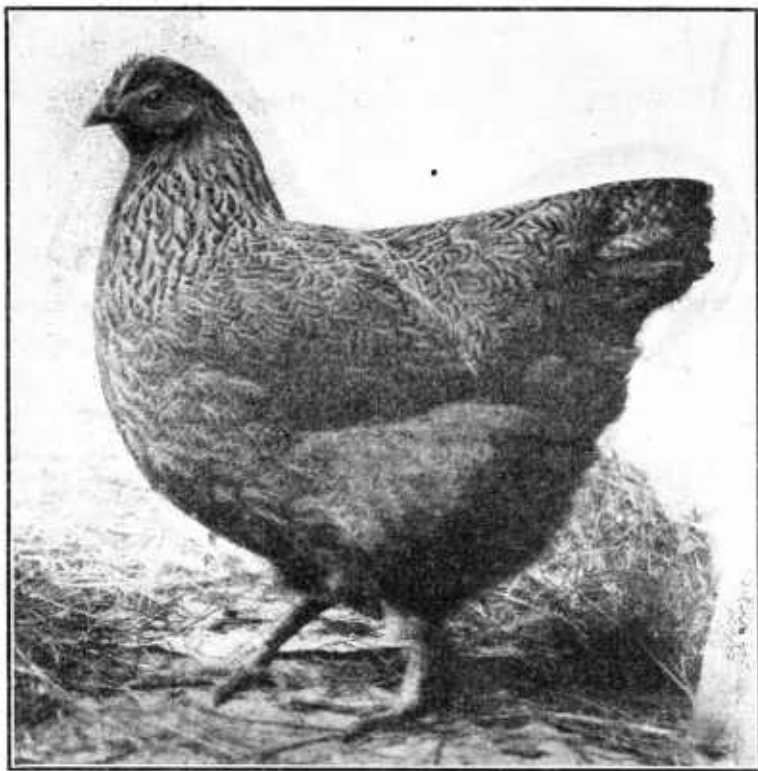


FIG. 5.—Partridge Plymouth Rock, female

of even shade, each feather except the primaries having a well-defined, narrow lacing of darker blue. The neck is decidedly darker than the rest of the body color. Both sexes have a slaty blue undercolor.

#### WYANDOTTE

The body of the Wyandotte is comparatively round, and the general shape and character of feathering give it an appearance of having a rather short back and being low set. Like the Plymouth Rock, it is a good general-purpose breed, well adapted for flesh production, and is a good layer when bred for egg production.

All Wyandottes have rose combs. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock,  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ; hen,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet,  $5\frac{1}{2}$ .

The **White Wyandotte** is white throughout and, like the White Plymouth Rock, should be free from any brassiness or creaminess or black ticking.

The **Buff Wyandotte** is an even shade of buff throughout, identical with that of the Buff Plymouth Rock.

The **Silver Laced Wyandotte** has a striking color combination which makes this variety very attractive. The male has a silvery white

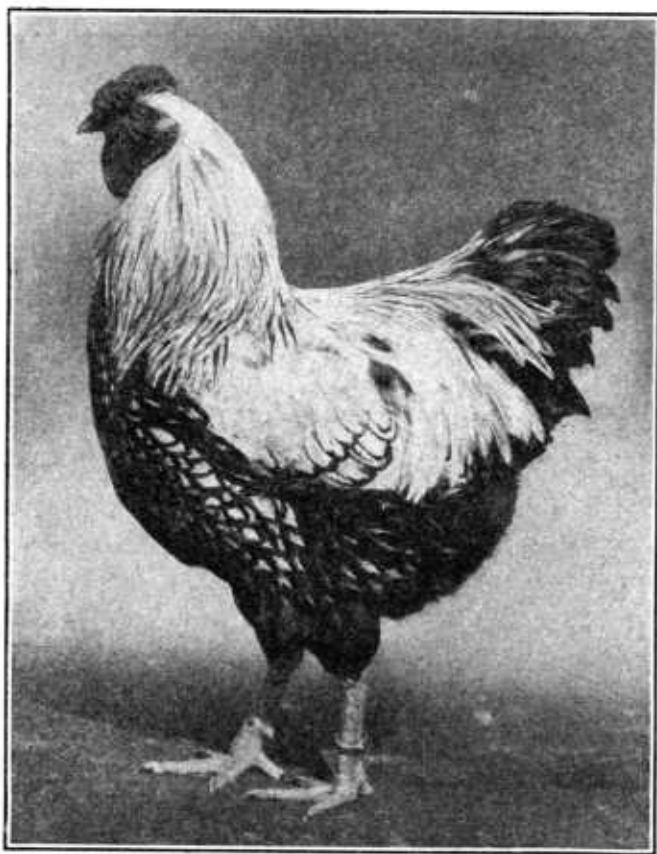


FIG 6.—Silver Laced Wyandotte, male

hackle, back and saddle, the hackle and saddle feathers being striped with black. The feathers of the body and breast are white laced with a black edge. The primaries are black with the lower edges white; the secondaries are also black with the lower half of the outer webs white and the upper webs edged with white. The main tail feathers are black. The female has white feathers laced with black over the entire body, except the neck feathers, which are black; there is also some black in the wings. The primaries and secondaries are practically the same as in the male. In both sexes

the undercolor is slate, in the male shading to lighter slate at the base.

The **Golden Laced Wyandotte** has the same general color scheme as the Silver Laced variety, except that the white is replaced with red and reddish brown. The undercolor is slate, in the male shading to red at the base.

The **Partridge Wyandotte** has the same color pattern as the Partridge Plymouth Rock.

The **Silver Penciled Wyandotte** has the same color pattern as the Silver Penciled Plymouth Rock.

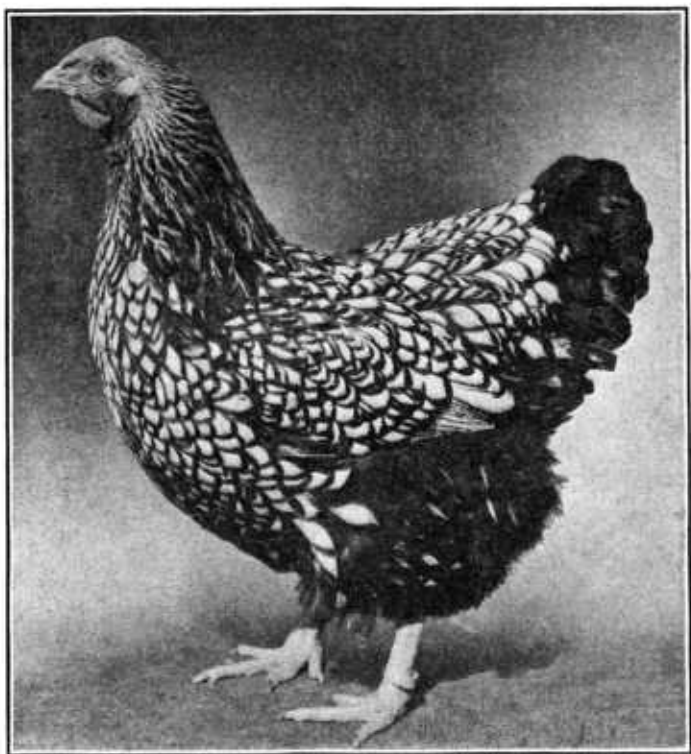


FIG. 7.—Silver Laced Wyandotte, female

The **Columbian Wyandotte** has the same color pattern as the Columbian Plymouth Rock.

The **Black Wyandotte** is black in all sections, showing a greenish sheen, free from purple barring. The undercolor is slate.

#### RHODE ISLAND RED

The **Rhode Island Red** has a rather long, rectangular body and appears somewhat more upstanding than the Plymouth Rock or the Wyandotte. At the same time, the body has good depth, is wide and of good length, making a good meat-producing bird. By proper breeding methods this breed can be developed into excellent layers.

There are two varieties, single comb and rose comb, which are otherwise identical. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock,  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ; hen,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet,  $5\frac{1}{2}$ .

The plumage color of the Rhode Island Red is a rich brownish red. This color should be as even as possible over the entire surface and throughout all sections, except that the lower webs of the primaries are mostly black, the upper webs of the secondaries are partly black, and the main tail feathers are black; the wings also show some

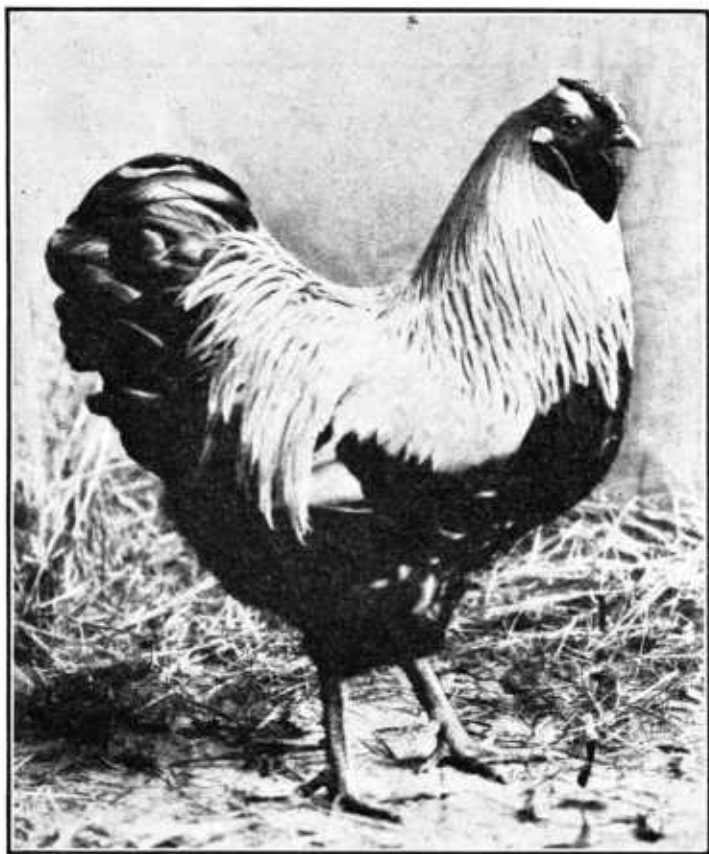


FIG. 8.—Silver Penciled Wyandotte, male

black. In the lower neck feathers of the female there is also a slight ticking of black. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes should be red and free from a dark or slaty appearance, which is known as smut. The beak is reddish horn, and the shanks and toes are rich yellow or reddish horn.

#### RHODE ISLAND WHITE

The Rhode Island White, of which the rose comb is the only variety, is identical with the Rose-Comb Rhode Island Red, except

that the plumage should be pure white, free from any tint of brassiness. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

#### JERSEY BLACK GIANT

The Jersey Black Giant is the largest of the American breeds. It resembles the other general-purpose fowls in most of their characteristics although it has not been bred so extensively for egg production as the Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, and Rhode Island Reds. The Jersey Black Giant resembles the Plymouth Rock in type but is



FIG. 9.—Silver Penciled Wyandotte, female

broader, deeper, and longer. The comb is single. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 13; hen, 10; cockerel, 11; pullet, 8.

The plumage in all sections is black with a greenish sheen. The undercolor is slate, approaching white at the skin. The beak is black, shading to yellow toward the tip. The shanks are black with yellow on the under surface of the feet and toes.

#### JAVA

The Java is a bird of good size having a long and deep body with good width of back and a full, well-rounded breast. The comb is single. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock,  $9\frac{1}{2}$ ; hen,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel, 8; pullet,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ .

The **Black Java** is black throughout, with a greenish sheen on the surface plumage. Any tendency toward purple barring is undesirable. The undercolor is dull black. The beak is black and the shanks and toes are black or nearly black, shading to willow, and the bottom of the feet and toes should be yellow.

The **Mottled Java** has black plumage mottled with white throughout, the black more plentiful than the white. The undercolor is slate. The color of the beak is horn, shading to yellow at tip, and the shanks and toes are leaden blue and yellow.

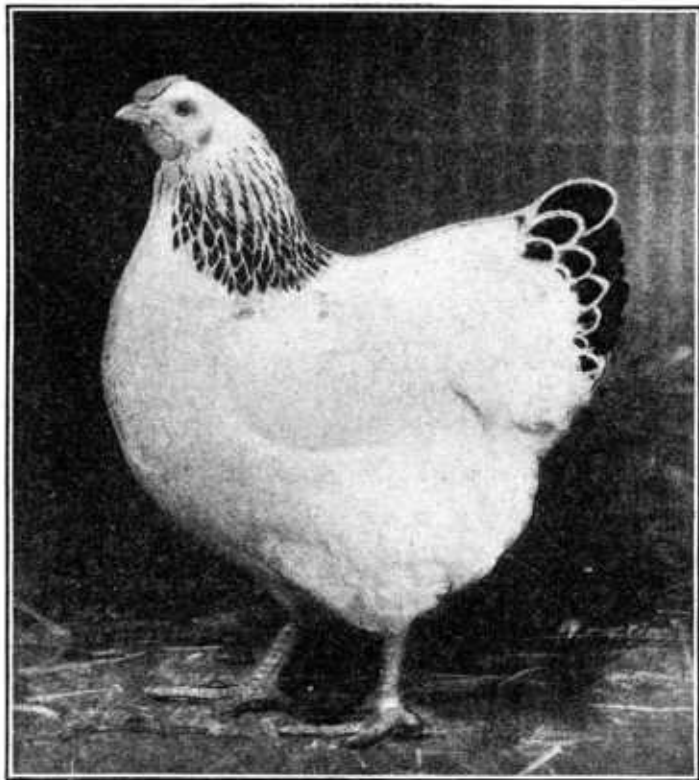


FIG. 10.—Columbian Wyandotte, female

#### DOMINIQUE

The Dominique is somewhat smaller and slither in body, with a tail somewhat longer and sickles more prominent than those of the other American breeds. The comb is rose. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 7; hen, 5; cockerel, 6; pullet, 4.

In plumage color the Dominique has a generally bluish or slaty cast; the feathers in all sections are barred with alternate, rather irregular light and dark bars. The markings lack the clean-cut barring effect of the Barred Plymouth Rock barring, but, like the

Barred Plymouth Rock, each feather should end with a dark tip. The undercolor is slate.

#### BUCKEYE

The Buckeye resembles somewhat the Java in type, except that it has not such a full, well-rounded breast and is not quite so large. The comb is pea shaped. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 9; hen, 6½; cockerel, 8; pullet, 5½.

The surface color of the Buckeye is mahogany bay, with a slightly darker shade on the wing bows of the males. The flight and main tail feathers of the male may contain black. The undercolor in

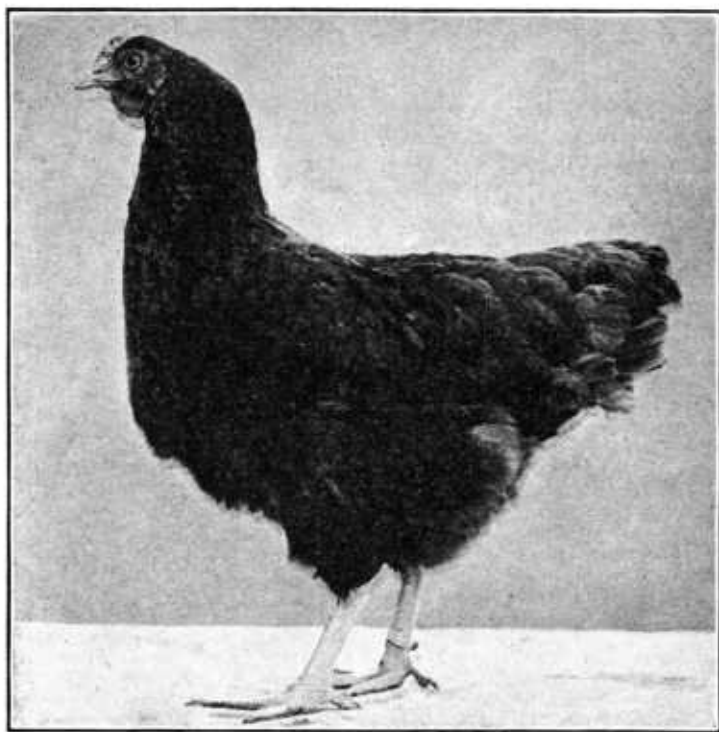


FIG. 11.—Single-Comb Rhode Island Red, female

both sexes is red, except in the back, where there is a bar of slate across each feather below the surface.

#### CHANTECLER

The Chantecler is pure white in all sections of its plumage. The most noticeable characteristics of the breed are a conformation resembling that of the Cornish, especially in breast development and carriage, the smallness of the cushion-shaped comb, and the very small wattles. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 9; hen, 7; cockerel, 8; pullet, 6.

## ASIATIC CLASS

The Asiatic class includes the following breeds and varieties:

BREED	VARIETY
Brahma-----	Light, Dark.
Cochin-----	Buff, Partridge, White, Black.
Langshan-----	Black, White.

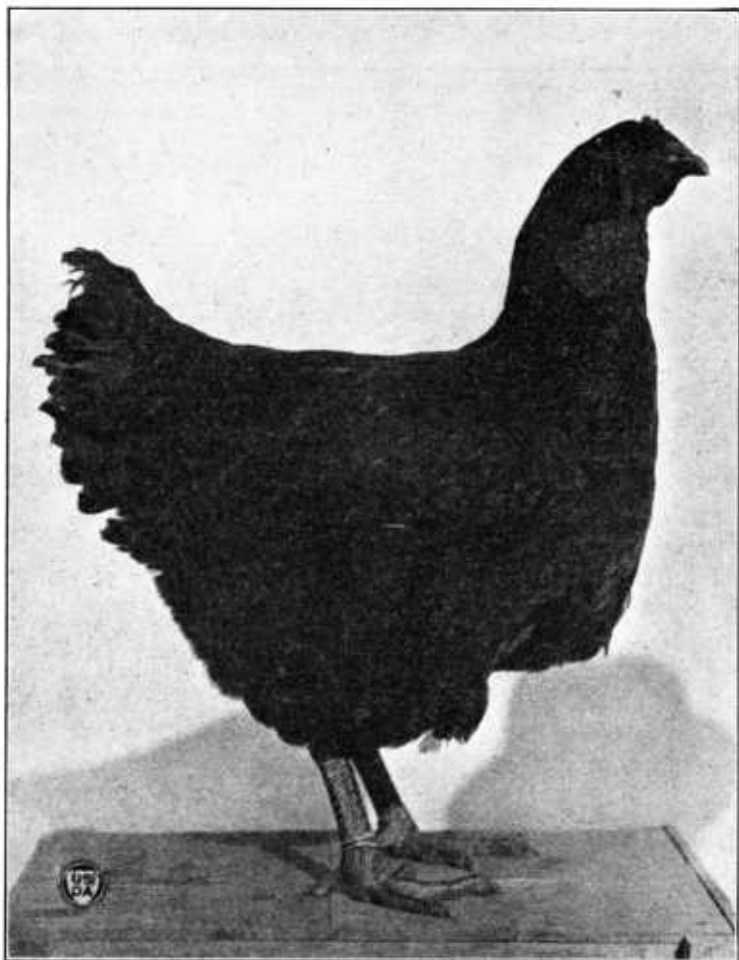


FIG. 12.—Jersey Black Giant, female

The breeds belonging to the Asiatic class are of a distinctive type, and have large bodies, feathered shanks, and are usually heavy in bone. They all have yellow skin, except the Black Langshan, whose skin is pinkish white. They all have red ear lobes, lay brown-shelled eggs, and are classed as broody.



## BRAHMA

Birds of the Brahma breed are massive in appearance, well feathered and well proportioned, giving the male, particularly, an imposing appearance, while the female has graceful lines and is a well-balanced bird. One characteristic of this breed is its pea comb. The standard weights of the Light Brahma, in pounds, are: Cock, 12; hen, 9½; cockerel, 10; pullet, 8; and of the Dark Brahma, cock, 11; hen, 8½; cockerel, 9; pullet, 7.

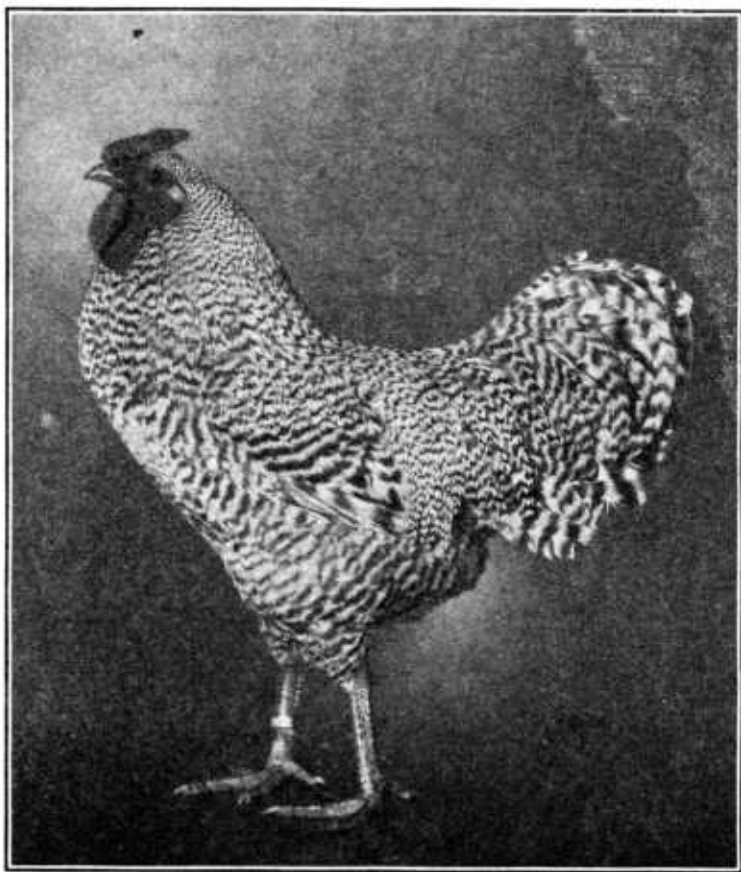


FIG. 13.—Dominique, male

The **Light Brahma**, in general, is white in plumage color, the hackle feathers are black with a narrow edging of white, the main tail feathers black, and the tail coverts black with distinct white lacing. The primary feathers of the wing are black with white edging on the lower edge of the lower web; the secondaries have the lower edge of the lower web white, the white extending around the end of each feather and lacing the upper portion of the web. The feathers on the shanks and the middle and outer toes are white and

black, the black feathers on the outer toes being laced with white. The undercolor of all sections is light-bluish slate. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

The **Dark Brahma** shows a sexual difference in color pattern, the male being more variegated than the female. In the male the hackle is greenish black with a narrow edging of silvery white, and the plumage in front of the neck is black. The wing bow is greenish

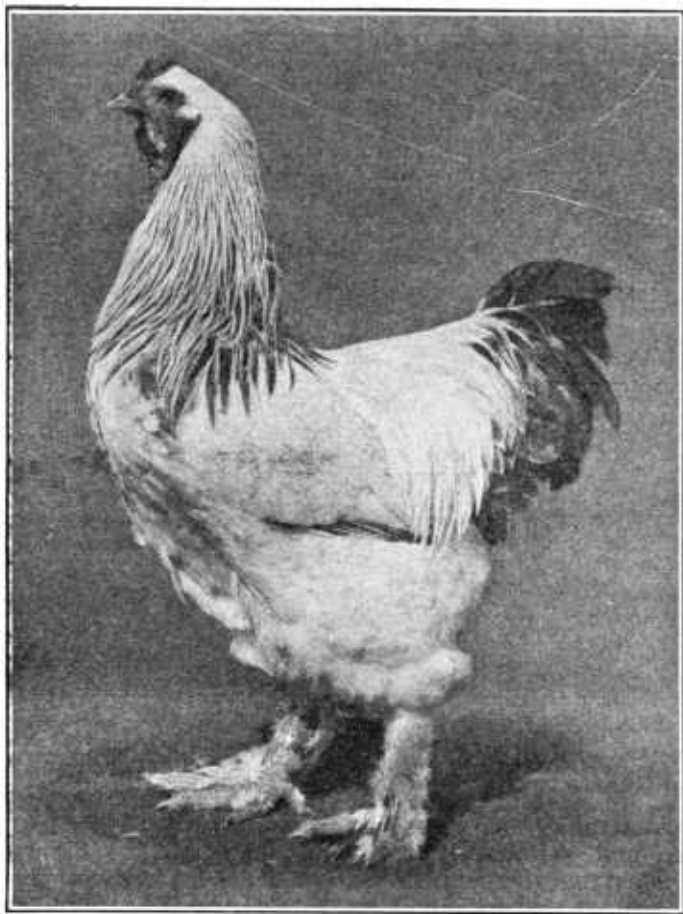


FIG. 14.—Light Brahma, male

black, the primaries black except for a narrow edging of white on the lower edge of the lower web, and the secondaries black except the lower half of the lower web, which should be white. The neck and saddle are silvery white with a black stripe in each feather. The tail is black, the sickles and coverts are lustrous, greenish black, and the smaller coverts greenish black edged with white. The color of the female is entirely different. The neck is silvery white, the wing bows are steel gray with soft, black penciling, the primaries

black with a narrow edge of steel-gray penciling on the lower webs, and the secondaries have the upper webs black and the lower webs steel gray with black penciling extending around the outer edge of the feathers. The back is steel gray, the same as the breast, body, and fluff, and the tail is black except for the two top feathers, which are penciled on the upper edge. The undercolor of all sections in both male and female should be slate. The beak is dusky yellow and the shanks and toes are yellow.

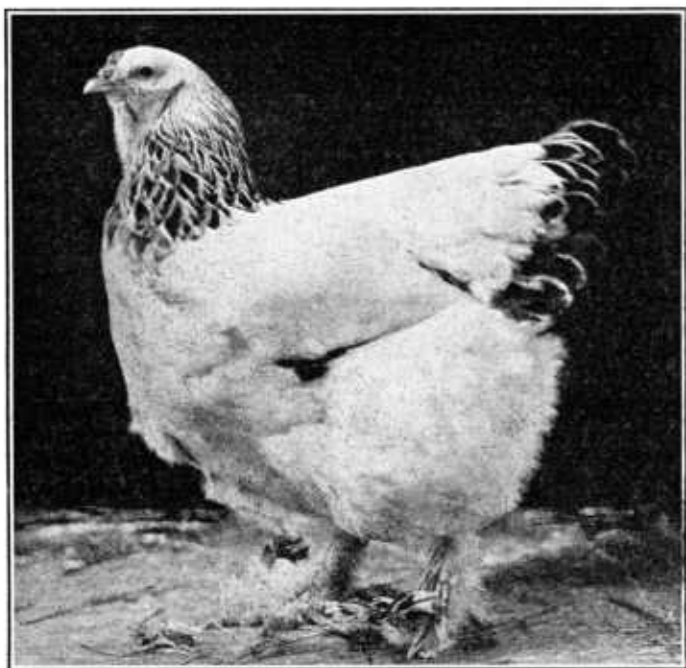


FIG. 15.—Light Brahma, female

#### COCHIN

The outstanding characteristics of the Cochin are its massive appearance and abundantly feathered shanks. The breast of the Cochin is carried low and, in the female, there is a very prominent development of the cushion at the base of the tail. The feathering is extremely long and profuse so that the Cochin appears much larger than is really the case. All Cochins have single combs. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 11; hen,  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel, 9; pullet, 7.

The Buff Cochin is an even shade of golden buff in the surface of all sections, and the undercolor is a lighter buff but should also be even in shade. The presence of feathers having a shaft of different color from the rest of the feathers, and the presence of feathers sprinkled with lighter color are undesirable. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

is carried low and, in the female, there is a very prominent development of the cushion at the base of the tail. The feathering is extremely long and profuse so that the Cochin appears much larger than is really the case. All Cochins have single combs. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 11; hen,  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel, 9; pullet, 7.

The **Buff Cochin** is an even shade of golden buff in the surface of all sections, and the undercolor is a lighter buff but should also be even in shade. The presence of feathers having a shaft of different



FIGURE 16.—Dark Brahma, male

color from the rest of the feathers, and the presence of feathers sprinkled with lighter color are undesirable. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

The **Partridge Cochin** has a color pattern similar to that of Partridge Plymouth Rock and Wyandotte, the color of the male differing materially from that of the female. The hackle of the male is greenish black with a narrow edging of brilliant red; the plumage in front of the neck is black. The wing bow is brilliant red. The primaries are black, with the lower edges reddish bay, and the secondaries are also black, the outside web of reddish bay with green-

The **White Cochin** is pure white throughout, free from any foreign color. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

The **Black Cochin** is black in surface color, with a greenish sheen free from purple, and the undercolor is dull black. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

#### LANGSHAN

The principal characteristics of the Langshan as compared with the Brahma and Cochin are that the body is shorter but deeper.

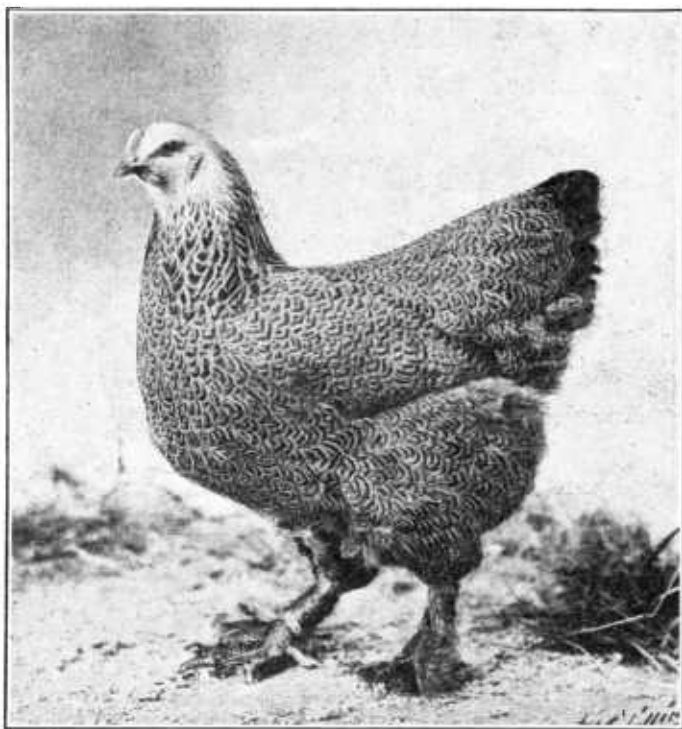


FIG. 17.—Dark Brahma, female

there is greater length of leg, the tail feathers are longer, and the tail is carried higher. The Langshan stands up well and is well proportioned, which makes it a very graceful bird. The comb is single. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Coek,  $9\frac{1}{2}$ ; hen,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel, 8; pullet,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ .

The **Black Langshan** has a greenish-black surface color and dull-black undercolor. The beak is dark horn, the shanks and toes are bluish black, and the bottoms of the feet are pinkish white.

The **White Langshan** is pure white throughout in plumage color. The beak is light-slate blue shading to pinkish white, and the shanks and toes are slaty blue, with pink between the scales.

## ENGLISH CLASS

The English class includes the following breeds and varieties:

BREED	VARIETY
Orpington-----	Buff, White, Black, Blue.
Cornish-----	Dark, White, White-Laced Red.
Dorking-----	White, Silver-Gray, Colored.
Sussex-----	Speckled, Red.
Red Cap.	

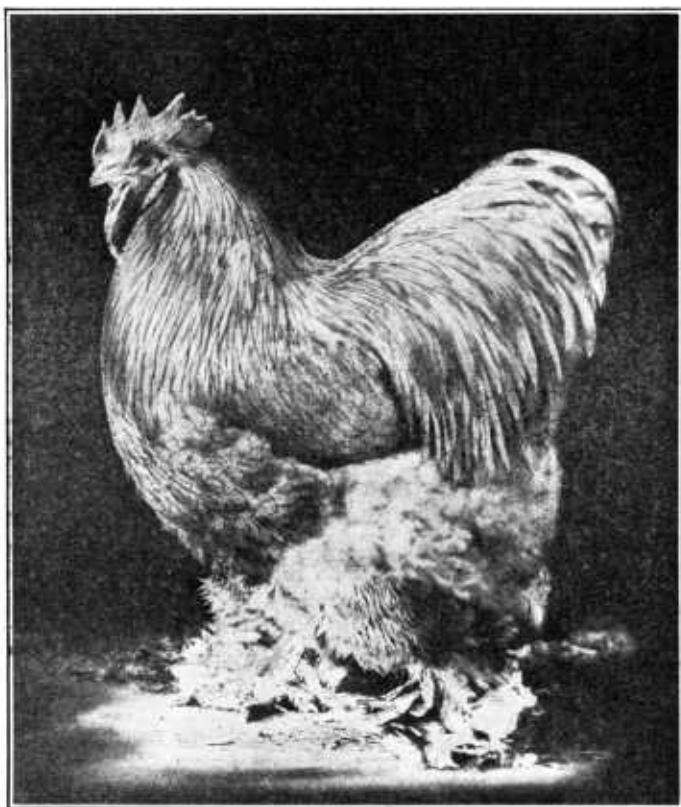


FIG. 18.—Buff Cochins, male

There is a great diversity among the breeds of chickens of the English class, but they are all of good size and have long been noted for their excellent fleshing properties. With the exception of the Cornish, all the breeds have white skin and red ear lobes, and, except the Dorking and Red Cap, lay brown-shelled eggs. All are classed as broody.

## ORPINGTON

The Orpingtons are characterized by their size and shape of body, which is long, deep, and well rounded, with full breast and broad

back. They are rather low set and heavy in bone. They are a little more loosely feathered than breeds of the American class, such as the Plymouth Rock, Rhode Island Red, and Wyandotte. The Orpingtons make good table birds and good laying strains have been developed when bred with that object in view. The comb is single. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 10; hen, 8; cockerel,  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet, 7.



FIG. 19.—Black Langshan, male

**The Buff Orpington** is an even shade of rich, golden buff throughout the surface, and the undercolor is a lighter but even shade of buff. The shade of buff should be as even as possible in all sections. The shanks and toes are white.

**The Black Orpington** in surface color is black throughout, free from any foreign color, while the undercolor is dull black. The shanks and toes are black, and the bottoms of the feet are white.

**The White Orpington** is pure white throughout. There should be no indication of brassiness or creaminess in either the surface or undercolor.

The **Blue Orpington** has practically the same color as the **Blue Andalusian**. In the male the hackle, back, saddle, sickle feathers, and tail coverts are slaty blue, each feather distinctly laced with very dark, lustrous blue. The rest of the plumage is a slaty blue which shows a well-defined lacing of darker blue. The female has a slaty blue of even shade, each feather having a clear, well-defined, narrow lacing of darker blue, and the neck is of a decidedly darker shade than the rest of the body. The undercolor in both sexes is slaty blue throughout, and the shanks and toes are leaden blue.

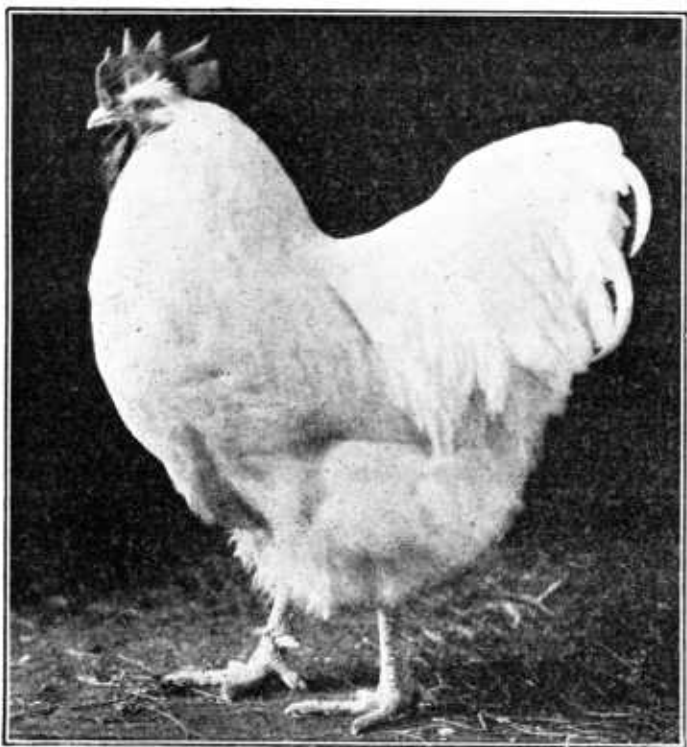


FIG. 20.—White Orpington, male

#### CORNISH

The **Cornish** is noted for its close feathering and compact, heavily meated body, which has a distinctive shape. It is exceptionally heavy for its size. The breast of the **Cornish** is very deep and broad, giving the shoulders great width. All **Cornish** birds have pea combs. The standard weights, in pounds, of the dark and white varieties, are: Cock, 10; hen,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel, 8; pullet, 6; and of the white laced red variety they are: Cock, 8; hen, 6; cockerel, 7; pullet, 5.

The **Dark Cornish** male has greenish-black hackle and wing bows; the primaries are black except for a narrow edging of bay on the outer edge; the secondaries have the upper webs black and the lower webs black and bay; the back of the male should be lustrous greenish



black and dark red intermixed. The tail, lower part of the body, and fluff are black, and the breast is greenish black. In the female the neck is a lustrous black, each feather having a bay shaft; the wing bows are bay. The primaries are almost entirely black; the secondaries have the upper webs black; and the lower webs are black except that there is a broad margin of bay penciling. The back is bay color. The main tail feathers are black except the upper two, which are penciled with bay. The lower part of the body, fluff, and breast are bay with the feathers for the most part penciled. The undercolor of both sexes is dark slate. The beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.



FIG. 21.—Dark Cornish, male

The **White Cornish** is pure white in plumage color, and the beak, shanks, and toes are yellow.

The **White-Laced Red Cornish** has, in both sexes, bright, rich-red neck feathers, in the male laced with silvery white and in the female with white. In both sexes the back, lower part of body, fluff, and breast are rich red in appearance, each feather regularly laced with a narrow lacing of white. In the male the tail is white; in the female the tail is red, except that the end of each feather is laced with white. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is white.

## DORKING

The Dorkings are characterized by long, broad, deep, and low-set bodies. The White Dorking has a rose comb, whereas the other two varieties have single combs. All Dorkings have five toes. The standard weights, in pounds, of the White Dorking are: Cock,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; hen, 6; cockerel,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet, 5; of the Silver-Gray and Colored Dorkings, they are: Cock, 9; hen, 7; cockerel, 8; pullet, 6.

The White Dorking is white throughout and should be free from any foreign color. The beak, shanks, and toes are white.



FIG. 22.—White-Laced Red Cornish, female

The Silver-Gray Dorking male has a white hackle, and the plumage on the front of the neck is black. The wing bows are silvery white; the primaries have the upper webs black and the lower webs white; the secondaries are the same as the primaries except that in the secondaries there is a black spot in each feather. The back and saddle are silvery white, the tail is black and the sickles and coverts are greenish black; the lower part of the body and the fluff are also black. In the female the neck is silvery gray, each feather having a black stripe extending down its center. The wing bows are silvery white; the primaries have the upper webs dark slate

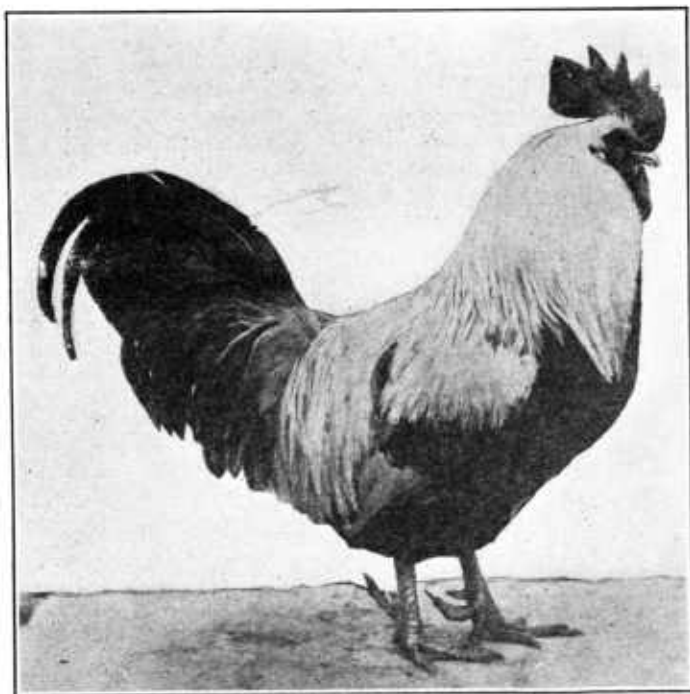


FIG. 23.—Silver-Gray Dorking, male

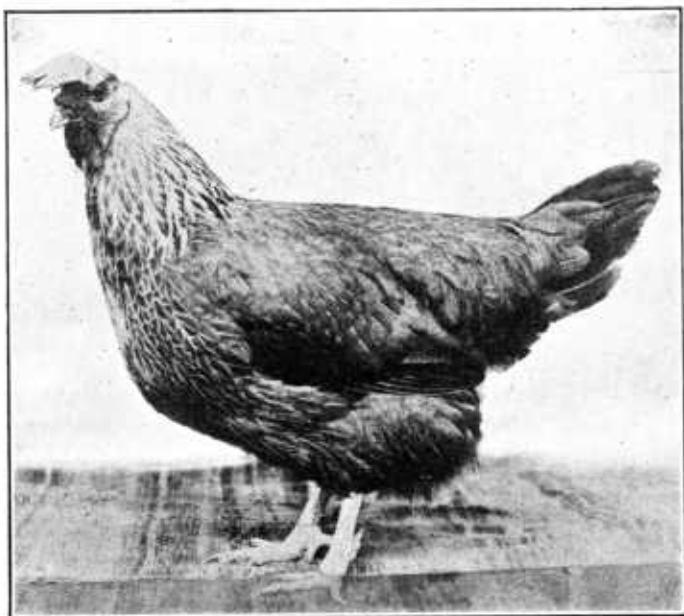


FIG. 24.—Silver-Gray Dorking, female

and the lower webs gray; the secondaries are the same as the primaries. The back is gray white and the tail is black. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is slate. The beak is white streaked with horn, and the shanks and toes are white.

**The Colored Dorking** male has a light-straw-colored hackle; the wing bows are light-straw color; the primaries are black or dark slate; the secondaries have the upper webs black and the lower webs white. The saddle feathers are also light-straw color with a black stripe down the middle of each feather. The breast, lower part of body, fluff, and tail are black. In the female the neck is black with gray edging on the front of each feather; the wing bows are black; the primaries are slaty brown; the secondaries have the upper webs black and the lower webs black with a mixture of dark red. The back of the female is lustrous black; the tail is dark brown; the lower part of the body is black slightly mixed with gray, and the fluff is dull black edged with gray. The undercolor of all sections in both male and female is slate. The beak is dark horn, and the shanks and toes are white.

#### SUSSEX

The Sussex is primarily a table fowl and has a long body broad at the shoulders and with good depth from front to rear. The breast is well developed, and the bird has excellent fleshing qualities. Fowls of this breed have single combs and horn-colored beaks, shanks, and toes. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 9; hen, 7; cockerel, 7½; pullet, 6.

**The Speckled Sussex** is reddish bay in color, each feather tipped with white. In the male the neck is a lustrous, reddish bay, each feather having a black stripe extending lengthwise. The wing bows also are reddish bay; the primaries are black and white; the secondaries have the outer webs bay edged with white, and the inner webs are black edged with white. The back and saddle are reddish bay; the main tail feathers are black and white; the lower part of body, fluff, and breast are all reddish bay in color, each feather tipped with white. The female is for the most part reddish bay throughout except that the primaries and secondaries are the same as in the male. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is slate shading to salmon.

**The Red Sussex** is a deep, rich red in both sexes. The only exceptions to the red color are found principally in the primaries, where the lower webs are black with a narrow edging of red, in the secondaries where the upper webs are black, and the tail, which is black. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is red with a slight bar of slate.

#### RED CAP

The Red Cap is bred to but slight extent in America. It is a bird of medium size with a fairly long body and a rather prominent breast. A large, rose comb is characteristic of the breed. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 7½; hen, 6; cockerel, 6; pullet, 5.

The hackle of the male is blue black, each feather being edged with red; the wing bows are mahogany red; the primaries dull black;

the secondaries have the upper webs black and the lower webs black with a broad edging of brown. The back is rich brown; the tail, lower part of the body, fluff, and breast are black. In the female the neck is black, each feather laced with golden bay; the wing bows are rich brown in color; the primaries dull black; the secondaries black, the lower webs having a broad edging of brown. The back, lower part of body, fluff, and breast are rich brown. The undercolor of all sections in both sexes is leaden blue. The beak is horn colored and the shanks and toes are slate or leaden blue.

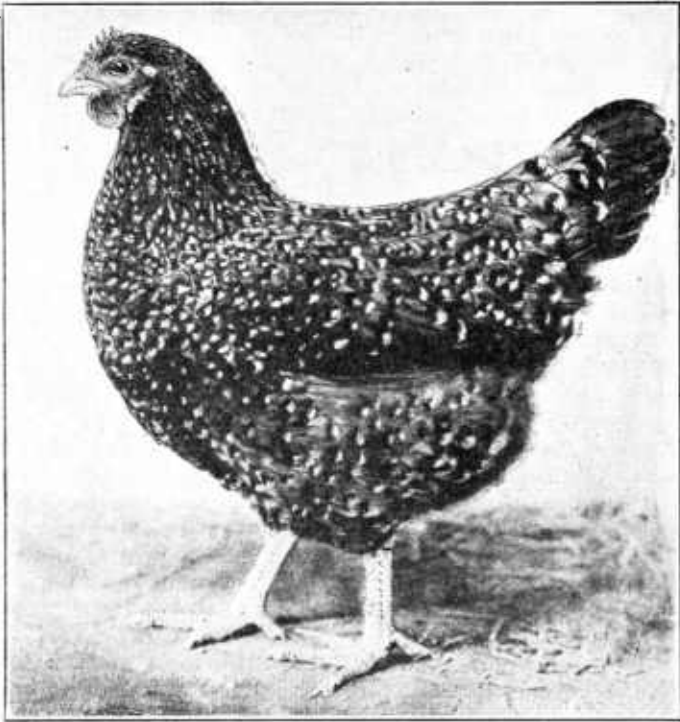


FIG. 25.—Speckled Sussex, female

### MEDITERRANEAN CLASS

The Mediterranean class includes the following standard breeds and varieties:

BREED	VARIETIES
Leghorn-----	Single-Comb White. Rose-Comb White. Single-Comb Light-Brown. Single-Comb Dark-Brown. Rose-Comb Brown. Single-Comb Buff. Rose-Comb Buff. Single-Comb Black. Silver.
Ancona-----	Single-Comb. Rose-Comb.

BREED	VARIETIES
Minorca-----	Single-Comb Black. Rose-Comb Black. Single-Comb White. Rose-Comb White. Single-Comb Buff.
Spanish-----	White-Faced Black.
Blue Andalusian.	

These breeds are smaller than the breeds belonging to the American, Asiatic, and English classes and are kept for egg-producing purposes rather than for the production of poultry meat. All the Mediterranean breeds are classed as nonbroody and all are clean legged, have white or creamy-white ear lobes, and lay white-shelled eggs.

#### LEGHORN

The Leghorn has been described as a bird of curves, since in outline it has a sweeping curve of neck, back, and tail which is "well furnished" and well spread. The breed is noted for the graceful blending of its different sections and its stylish carriage. All the Leghorns have yellow beaks, skin, shanks, and toes. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock,  $5\frac{1}{2}$ ; hen, 4; cockerel,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet,  $3\frac{1}{2}$ . There are single-comb and rose-comb varieties, and the shape of the comb is of considerable importance. The single comb in the male should be of medium size and should stand erect, with five regular, deeply serrated points. The back of the comb should not follow the curve of the neck nor incline upward, but should extend straight out from the back of the head. In the female the front of the first point should stand erect, but the remainder of the comb should droop to one side. The comb in both sexes should be free from wrinkles, "thumb marks," or folds. In the rose-comb varieties the comb of the male should be of medium size and square in front, well filled and free from hollows, the spike well developed and extending straight back from the head, showing no tendency to follow the curve of the neck nor to turn upward. The rose comb of the female is small and neat and in shape is like that of the male.

The **Single-Comb White Leghorn** is white throughout and should be free from any brassiness or creaminess.

The **Rose-Comb White Leghorn** is identical with the Single-Comb White Leghorn, except for the rose comb.

The **Single-Comb Light-Brown Leghorn** male has a hackle of orange color, the lower feathers of which are striped down the middle with black. The breast is black, the wing bows are bright red, the back is reddish brown and the saddle is light orange or lemon; the feathers of the back and saddle should be free from shafting. The dull-black primaries and secondaries have the lower webs edged with brown. The feathers over the lower part of the body are slate tinged with brown. The tail is black. The undercolor is light slate. In the female the neck feathers are golden yellow with a black stripe extending down the center of each feather. The breast is a rich, salmon color, and should be free from penciling, stippling, or shafting. The sides of the breast shade gradually to the color of the wings. The primaries are a slaty brown with the outer webs showing a narrow

edging of brown. The secondaries are brown, with the outer webs finely stippled with lighter brown. The back, body, tail coverts, wing bows, and coverts in surface color are of light brown, finely stippled with darker brown. The shade of color over the back, wing bows, and coverts should be even and the feathers free from shafting. The fluff and thighs are slate tinged with brown. The undercolor throughout is slate.

**The Single-Comb Dark-Brown Leghorn** male has a dark-red head, a rich-red hackle and saddle, and the feathers are striped with a greenish-black stripe extending through the middle of each feather. The back is of the same shade as the hackle, but is without the strip-

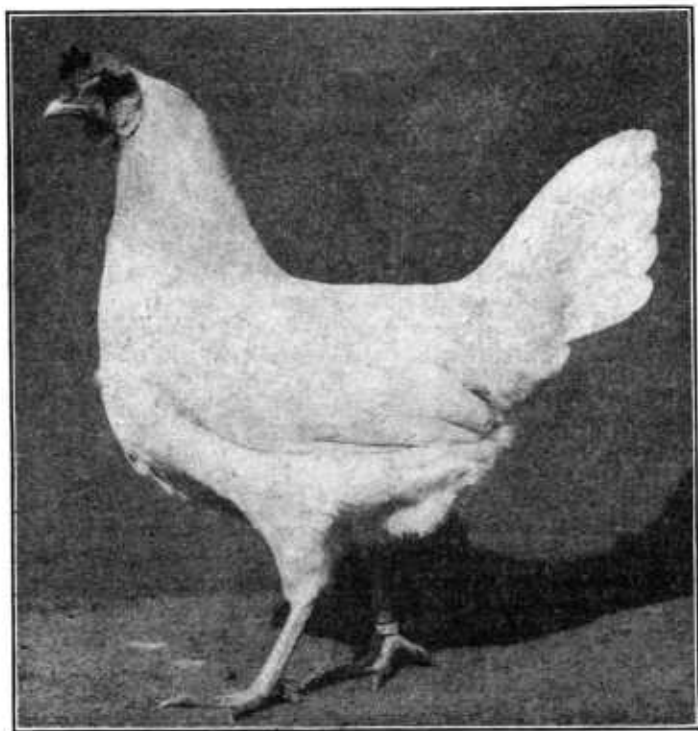


FIG. 26.—Single-Comb White Leghorn, female

ing. The wing bows are rich red, the fronts and coverts greenish black, which show as a distinct wing bar when the wing is folded. The primaries are black, the lower webs edged with brown. The secondaries are black, the lower webs showing edges of brown. The tail, body, breast, fluff, and thighs are black. The undercolor throughout is slate.

The female is of a darker shade than the female of the light-brown variety. The neck should be well striped with black. The breast is a dark reddish salmon stippled with brown. The wings and back should be black, stippled with a darker brown. There should be no shafting, but the plumage should show a greenish sheen free from

purple. The stippling is much coarser than in the light-brown female. The undercolor should be slate, running quite dark down to the skin.

The **Rose-Comb Brown Leghorn** male in color pattern is the counterpart of the male of the single-comb, dark-brown variety, and the female in color pattern is the counterpart of the single-comb, light-brown variety. At many of the leading exhibitions, however, the Rose-Comb Brown Leghorns are divided into two classes, as in the case of the single-comb variety, light brown and dark brown. In such cases the Rose-Comb Brown Leghorn male and female are

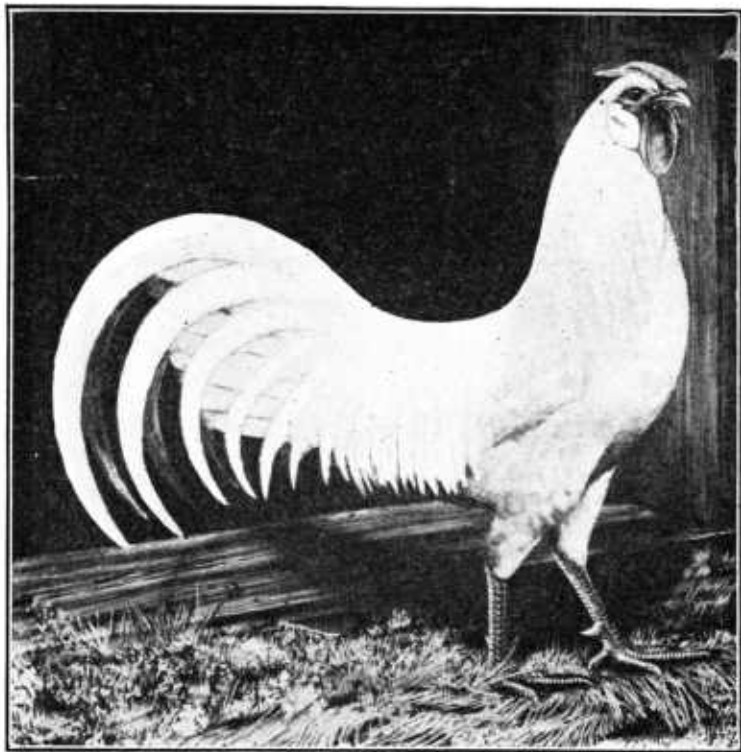


FIG. 27.—Rose-Comb White Leghorn, male

color counterparts of the Single-Comb Dark-Brown Leghorn male and female, respectively. The same thing applies to the color of the Rose-Comb Light-Brown Leghorn male and female when compared with the Single-Comb Light-Brown Leghorn male and female.

The **Single-Comb Buff Leghorn** is of the same golden-buff color as found in the Buff Plymouth Rock and other buff varieties.

The **Rose-Comb Buff Leghorn** is the counterpart in color of the single-comb buff variety.

The **Single-Comb Black Leghorn** should be black in all sections, showing a lustrous sheen free from purple barring. The undercolor throughout is dull black.



The **Silver Leghorn** male has a silvery white surface color; the head is silvery white, and the hackle is white, each feather having a median strip of black. The wing fronts and shoulders are black, the bows are silvery white, the coverts black, forming a distinct bar across the wing. The primaries are black, except for the silvery white outer edges of the lower feathers. The secondaries are also black; the back, saddle, and lower tail coverts are silvery white. The cape, main tail feathers, sickles, upper tail coverts, breast, body, thighs, and fluff are black. In the female the head and neck are



FIG. 28.—Single-Comb Light-Brown Leghorn, female

silvery gray, each feather of the latter showing a narrow black stripe. The wing bows and coverts are silvery white, finely stippled with ashy gray, giving these sections a general gray cast. In the primary and secondary feathers the upper webs are gray and the lower webs slaty gray. The front of the neck is a light salmon, and the breast is salmon, fading gradually to the color of the wings at the side. The back, body, and thighs are the same color as the wing bows and coverts. The tail is black, except that the upper two feathers are light gray and the tail coverts are gray. The fluff is a light, ashy gray. In both sexes the undercolor is gray throughout.

## ANCONA

The Ancona is similar to the Leghorn in type. It seems to have about the same utility qualities as the Leghorn. The standard weights, in pounds are: Cock,  $5\frac{1}{2}$ ; hen,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet,  $3\frac{1}{2}$ .

The **Single-Comb Ancona** and the **Rose-Comb Ancona** are the two varieties of this breed, and they are identical in every respect except in the shape of the comb.



FIG. 29.—Single-Comb Dark-Brown Leghorn, male

The single comb is identical in shape with the Leghorn single comb of each sex, and the rose comb in the Ancona female is identical in shape with the Leghorn female rose comb; but in the Ancona male it is slightly smaller than in the Leghorn male.

The Ancona has a plumage color of lustrous black with certain of the feathers tipped with a V-shaped white tip. The proportion of feathers carrying such a white tip varies from one in two to one in

five in different sections. The black top color of the male has a greenish sheen which is absent in the female. The main tail feathers and sickles of the male and the main tail feathers of the female are each tipped with white. The primary and secondary wing feathers also carry white tips. The undercolor is dark slate throughout. The beak is yellow with the upper mandible shaded with black and the shanks and toes are yellow or yellow mottled with black.

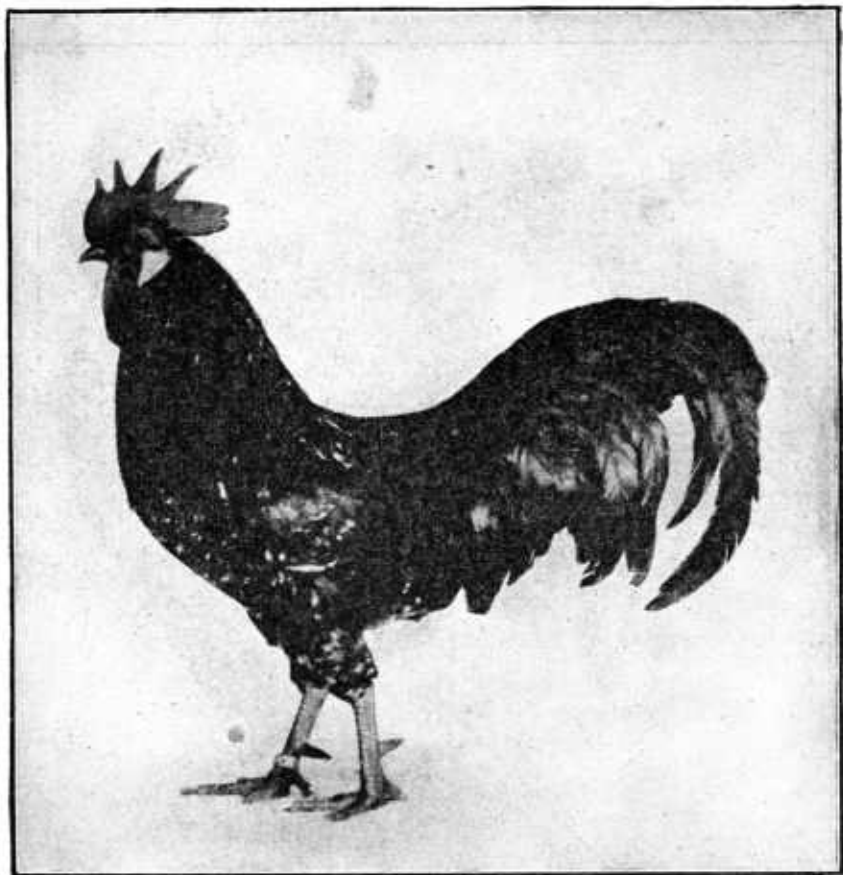


FIG. 30.—Single-Comb Ancona, male

#### MINORCA

The Minorea is noted for its length of body, large comb, and long wattles, and is the largest of the Mediterranean breeds. The long back has a noticeable slope downward from the shoulders to the base of the tail. The tail is carried rather low and is well spread. The breast is prominent and well rounded. The skin of all varieties of the Minoreas is white.

In the single-comb varieties the comb is unusually large. In the male it is erect and has six evenly and deeply serrated points. The blade of the comb has a tendency to follow the neck. In the female

also the comb is large, six-pointed, and the front of the comb folds to one side and the remainder droops to the other side of the head. In the rose-comb varieties the comb of the male is fairly large, square in front, and terminates in a well-defined spike which has a tendency to follow the neck. The rose comb of the female is practically the same in shape as that of the male but is smaller. The

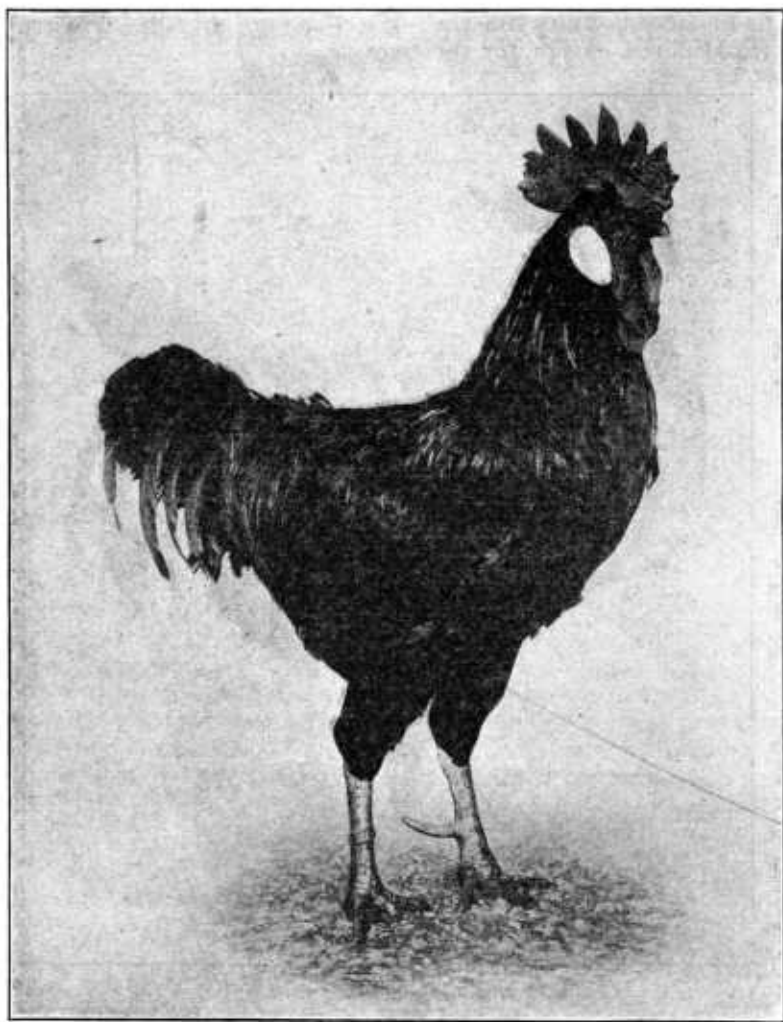


FIG. 31.—Single-Comb Black Minorca, male

standard weights, in pounds, of the Single-Comb Black and Single-Comb Buff Minorcas, are: Cock, 9; hen,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel,  $7\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ . Of the other varieties of Minorcas the weights are: Cock, 8; hen,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet,  $5\frac{1}{2}$ .

The **Single-Comb Black Minorca** is black with lustrous, greenish sheen over the surface, which should be free from purple barring.

The undercolor is dull black. The beak is black, and the shanks and toes are black or dark slate.

The **Rose-Comb Black Minorca** is identical with the **Single-Comb Black Minorca** in color, but is 1 pound lighter in standard weight.

The **Single-Comb White Minorca** should be white throughout, free from any foreign color. The beak, shanks, and toes are pinkish white.

The **Rose-Comb White Minorca** is the counterpart of the **Single-Comb White Minorca**, except for the comb.



FIG. 32.—White-Faced Black Spanish, male

The **Single-Comb Buff Minorca** should be an even, rich, golden buff throughout, as in the case of all buff birds. The beak is light horn, and the shanks and toes are white or pinkish white.

#### WHITE-FACED BLACK SPANISH

The **White-Faced Black Spanish** has a very large, pendulous, white face which should be smooth and free from wrinkles. In type the Spanish is very much the same as the **Minorca**, although it has

not quite so long a body and has a somewhat higher carriage of tail. The skin is white. The comb is single and rather large, although not so large as in the single-comb Minorca. It has five regular, deeply serrated points, and the blade extends nearly straight back from the head, having little, if any, tendency to follow the neck. The comb of the female is erect in front and droops to one side. The standard weights, in pounds, are: Cock, 8, hen,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel,  $6\frac{1}{2}$ ; pullet,  $5\frac{1}{2}$ . The plumage color should be black throughout with a lustrous,



FIG. 33.—Blue Andalusian, male

greenish sheen. The undercolor is dark slate throughout. The beak is black and the shanks and toes are dark leaden blue or black.

#### BLUE ANDALUSIAN

The Blue Andalusian is similar to the Leghorn in type, but is slightly larger. The comb is single, that of the male somewhat larger than the comb of the Leghorn, and the blade has a slight tendency to follow the neck. The comb of the female is practically identical with that of the Leghorn female. The standard weights,

in pounds, are: Cock, 7; hen,  $5\frac{1}{2}$ ; cockerel, 6; pullet,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ . In the male the hackle, back, saddle, shoulders, sickle feathers, and tail coverts are a medium shade of slaty blue, each feather laced with lustrous blue. The rest of the plumage is also an even shade of slaty blue, each feather laced with darker blue but the lacing in these sections is not so dark in shade as in the other sections named above. The upper portions of the male, therefore, appear much darker in shade of blue than the lower portions. The plumage color of the female is a slaty blue of even shade, each feather, except the primaries, having a clear, well-defined, narrow lacing of darker blue. The neck feathers have a decidedly darker cast than the rest of the body. The undercolor of both sexes is a slaty blue throughout. The skin is white; the beak is horn, and the shanks and toes leaden blue.

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October 2, 1926

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